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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

FACTURING METHOD THEREOF)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

April 23, 2001

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under CF.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 35 CF.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The listed documents were cited in a European Search Report dated March 1, 2001 (copy enclosed) issued by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

The documents EP 0 865 931, JP 07 331450, and JP 60 015644, listed in the European Search Report, are not listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and are not submitted herewith, since they were previously cited in an Information

IPE

Disclosure Statement filed on May 11, 2000 in this application.

For the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents, the Examiner is respectfully referred to the English Abstracts attached thereto.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

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